

KAWAI et al.
Appl. No. 09/712,227
April 24, 2006

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2006.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 6, 21, 27 and 31.

All rejected claims have been canceled, leaving only allowed claims 6, 21, 27 and 31 pending.

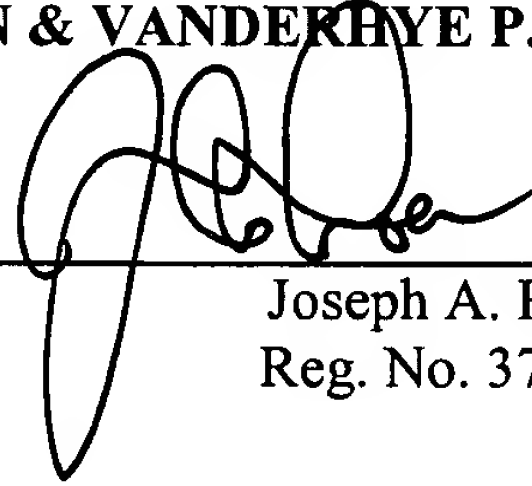
Thus, all pending claims have been allowed and the application is in condition for allowance.

If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHUYE P.C.

By: _____



Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100